

response, including a supporting brief and any rebuttal evidence, by **June 1, 2022**. By separate order, the Court may, in its discretion, set a hearing on class certification.

2. Any motions requesting leave to join additional parties or amend pleadings under Federal Rule 15(a) shall be filed by **October 22, 2021**. Any motion for leave to amend pleadings after that date must show good cause pursuant to Federal Rule 16(b).

3. The parties shall exchange Rule 26(a)(1) initial disclosures on or before **June 21, 2021**.

4. Discovery may begin immediately. All written discovery must be sent in a timely manner to ensure that responses pertaining to class certification are due in time for the certification filing deadlines to be met.

a. Defendants shall serve written responses to Plaintiff's First Requests for the Production of Documents on or before **June 28, 2021**.

b. Depositions are limited to two (2) depositions per side prior to the Court's ruling on Plaintiffs' class certification motion. After such time, Plaintiffs may take the additional eight depositions provided for under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Experts shall not count towards this limit. Depositions under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6) shall count as one for purposes of this limit, regardless of how many persons a party designates to testify on its behalf.

5. Plaintiffs shall file a written designation of the name and address of each expert witness in connection with class certification, if any, and otherwise comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) on or before **February 1, 2022**. Defendants shall file a written designation of the name and address of each expert witness in connection with class certification, if any, and otherwise comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) on or before **March**

1, 2022. The parties shall complete depositions of class certification experts on or before **April 1, 2022.**

6. After ruling on the issue of class certification, the Court will issue a separate scheduling order to address the deadlines for the remainder of this case.

7. This Order controls the disposition of this case unless it is modified by the Court on a showing of **good cause** and by **leave of court**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4).

8. Questions about this Order or any other matters related to this case should be directed by email to the Court at **Cynthia.Thornton@txnd.uscourts.gov**. If you choose to email the Court, include the case name and number, as well as your name and number. *Also, make sure to “cc” opposing counsel* on your email to the Court. If you do not “cc” opposing counsel, you will not receive a response to your email.

There appears to be no further reason at this time to maintain the file as open for statistical purposes. The Clerk is therefore instructed to submit a JS-6 form to the Administrative Office, thereby removing this case from the statistical records. Nothing in this Order shall be considered a dismissal or disposition of this case.

SO ORDERED; signed May 21, 2021.


ADA BROWN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE